

Protecting Women's Access to Ob-Gyn Care



As a result of America's medical liability crisis:

- **Women Cannot Obtain Needed Medical Care**

Ob-gyns are quitting the practice, no longer delivering babies, reducing the number they do deliver, and further cutting back, or eliminating, care for high-risk patients, the uninsured, and the underinsured.

- **Women in Rural Areas Are At Greater Risk**

Women in underserved rural areas have historically been particularly hard hit by the loss of ob-gyns. The loss of even one ob-gyn can leave a state's women without critical and needed care.

- **Low Income Women Lose Needed Care**
Unaffordable, and at times unavailable, medical liability insurance premiums are forcing ob-gyns to stop providing volunteer care to low-income women.

- **Women Receive Less Prenatal Care**
With fewer obstetric providers, women's access to early prenatal care is reduced. Improved access to prenatal care has resulted in record low infant mortality rates, an advance now threatened as ob-gyns drop obstetrics.

- **Women Have Less Preventive Health Care**
Women receive fewer screenings for reproductive cancers, high blood pressure and cholesterol, diabetes, and other serious health risks as ob-gyns and community clinics reduce

Delivering A Solution



The Healthy Mothers and Healthy Babies Access to Care Act (S. 2061)

- The Healthy Mothers and Healthy Babies Access to Care Act allows for unlimited economic awards in medical liability.
- It sets a \$250,000 limit on non-economic damages with deference to individual state law.
- This bill provides a reasonable limit on non-economic awards and restores some common sense to the system and provide significant peace of mind for women everywhere.
- This bill guarantees of unlimited economic damages for things like medical bills and lost wages.
- This bill protects women's access to care — especially those with high-risk or complicated pregnancies.
- The bill also mandates that any witness called to offer medical testimony in a medical liability case be a certified expert in the area in which he or she is testifying.
- The bill applies to OBGYN services and products throughout the health care community including physicians and other health care providers.